

November Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30, Wednesday, November 9

Evening, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and
Thursday, November 9 and 10

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker:

Carl Roessler

Subject:

"Around the World Under the Sea"



Carl Roessler, well-known underwater photographer, chose his title well; he does not exaggerate. Beginning in the Caribbean, including Cozumel and the Mexican-Yucatan coastline, Mr. Roessler will be everyone's underwater buddy as we travel to the Mediterranean and Red Seas, on to Australia and the Coral Sea, through the tropical South Pacific and homeward bound with stops on the fringe of the tropics: Hawaii, Galapagos and Baja California's Sea of Cortez. By covering the whole world in one hour you will be able to compare the similarities and differences of the creatures of the deep; from tiny invertebrates to very large sharks.

Mr. Roessler, who heads a travel organization which arranges "underwater safaris", has taken over 100,000 underwater photographs including some of a few species new to science. His articles and photos have appeared in such periodicals as **Natural History**, **International Wildlife**, **Oceans** and **Skin Diver**, and a few of his works are on display in the Fish Roundabout at the CAS. Mr. Roessler's outstanding book, **Underwater Wilderness**, is fresh off the press and will be available for sale at the members' meetings.

Special Exhibits

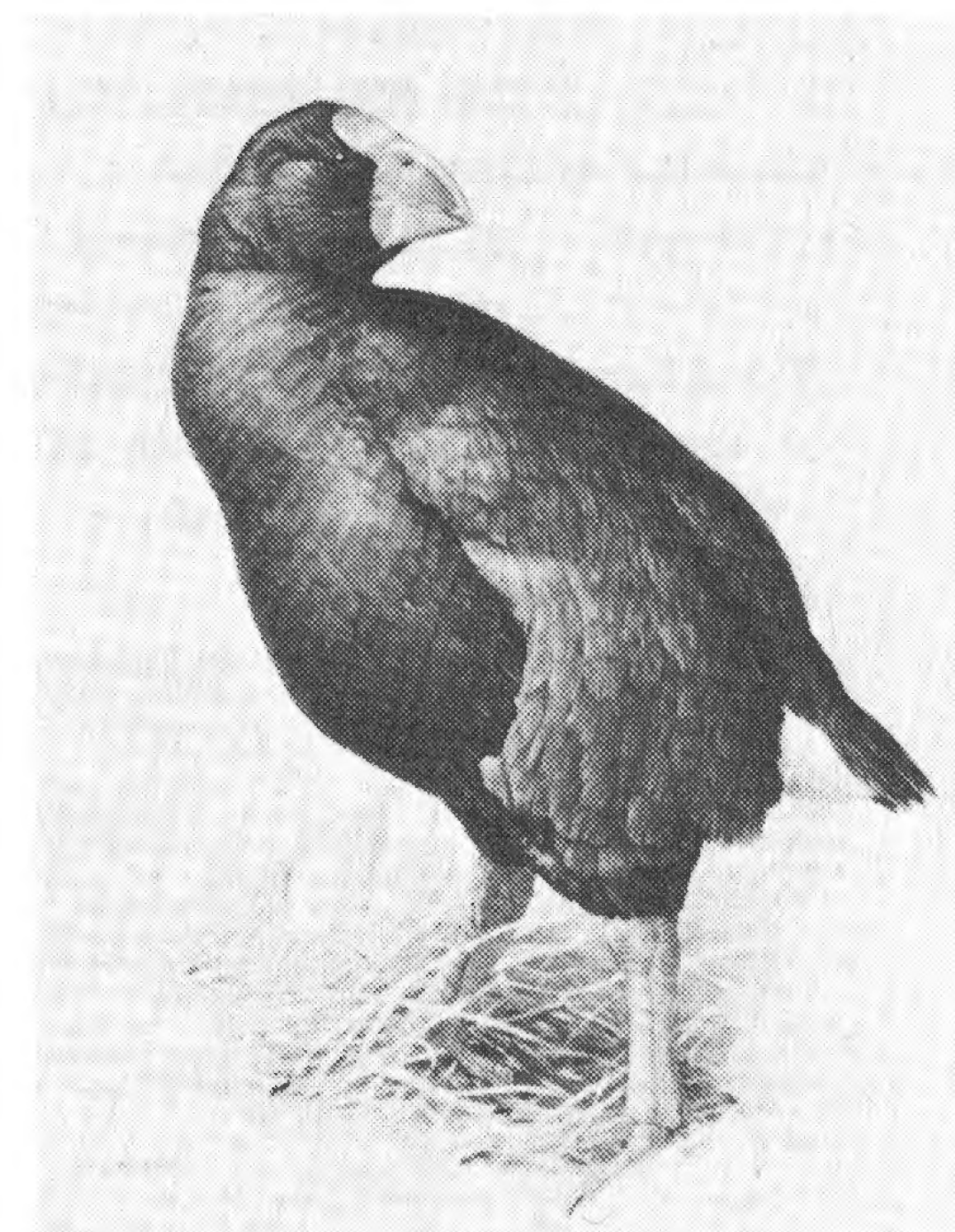
If you are familiar with the vivid color work of Carl Roessler you won't want to miss "Around the World Under the Sea". Your membership card admits you through either the Cowell Hall or Wattis Hall entrances for the matinee presentation, and through Cowell Hall for the evening meetings. At the 2:30 program you will be asked to present your card at the auditorium door also.



Art of the First Australians is a major new exhibition of Aboriginal painting, sculpture, and artifacts of the past two hundred years. It is on loan from the Australian Exhibit Organization and was arranged by the Aboriginal Arts Board of the Australia Council. The exhibit will be on display in the Peterson and McBean Galleries through March, 1978. A catalog filled with maps, photos and drawings of many of the pieces on display is available for \$3.50 to members.

Botanical Prints by Henry Evans brings springtime inside the Academy with 50 original linocut prints of wildflowers, grasses and ornamentals by the well-known botanical printmaker. His book, **Botanical Prints**, is on sale at the Museum Shop.

Fossil X-rays features approximately 60 radiographs in an unusual collection of paleontological x-ray examinations of Devonian fossils. Using soft x-rays, Dr. Wilhelm Stuermer, a West German physicist and paleontologist has cast new light on the study of fossil material dating back 380 million years. Through December in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery.



Rails of the World opened in late October with 42 watercolors painted by J. Fenwick Lansdowne to illustrate the book, **Rails of the World**, by S. Dillon Ripley, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

After studying his subjects in the field, Lansdowne uses museum collections of bird skins to gain the fidelity of detail and color for which he is famous. This collection of watercolors represents 12 years of work for Mr. Ripley's monograph on these threatened marsh birds.

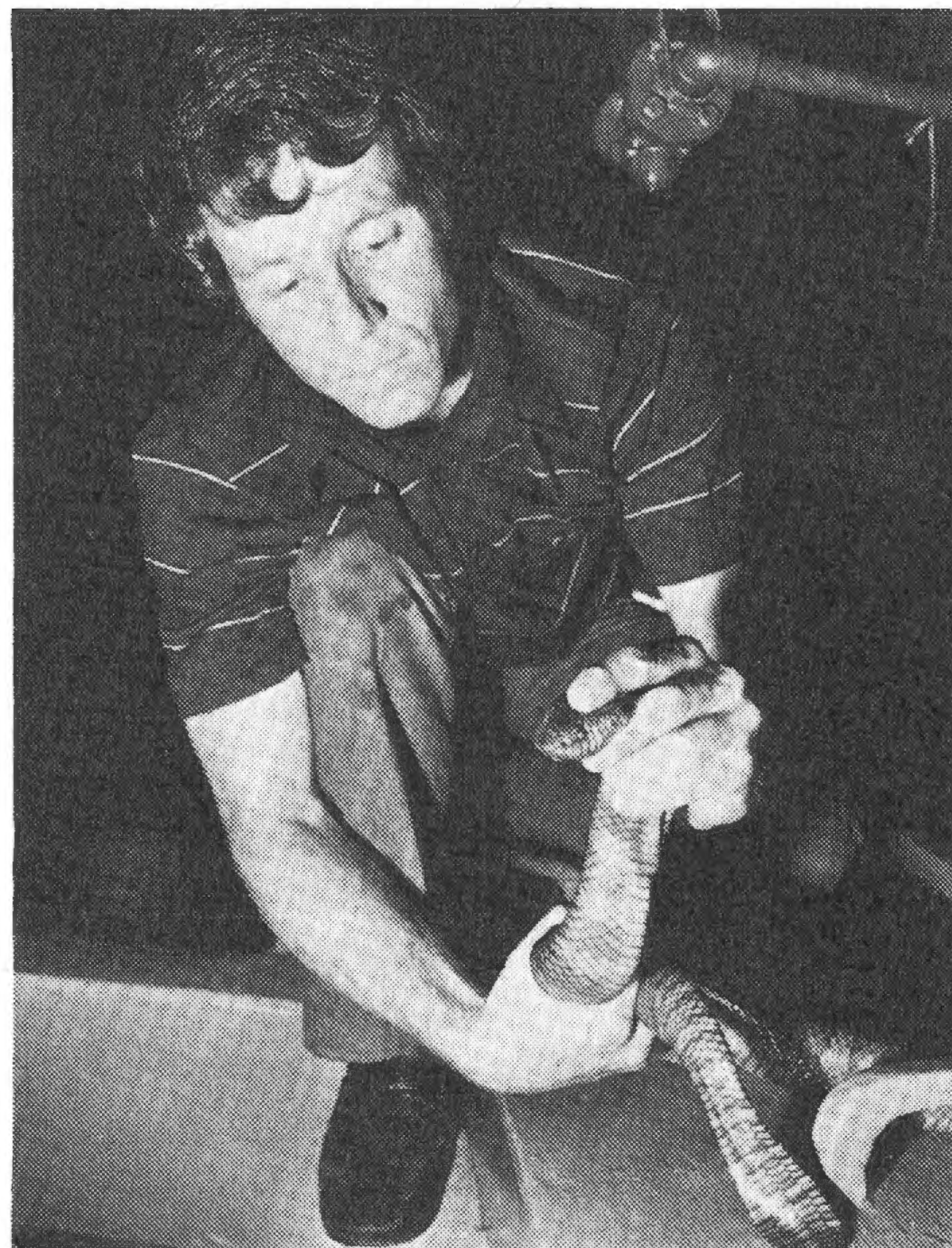
Morrison Planetarium

It's About Time is more than appropriate for the first sky show in the newly renovated Morrison Planetarium. Time is that familiar dimension which dominates our lives and yet is as mysterious as the infinite depth of space. After investigating the strange units of time on planet X, we will see how the people on the planet Earth developed their day, month and year. Finally, we will probe some of the mysterious time alterations caused by travel close to the speed of light.

It's About Time can be seen daily at 2:00 p.m. and on weekends and holidays at 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30. Evening programs are presented on Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. (The Planetarium is closed on Thanksgiving Day.)

Inside the Academy

Sunday, November 6, marks the 25th birthday of the Morrison Planetarium. In honor of the occasion a party has been planned with birthday cake, balloons, and an extra performance of "It's About Time". On this Sunday only, you can see the sky show at 11:00 a.m., 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30 p.m.



Seven deadly sea snakes, the only ones on display in America, arrived last month at the Steinhart Aquarium. Ten times more venomous than its land relative, the cobra, sea snakes are difficult to maintain in captivity because they usually must be force fed. At Steinhart, however, staff aquatic biologist, Ed Miller, shown above, has learned new ways to induce natural feeding to insure survival.

Sea snakes live in the Indian and tropical Pacific Oceans, and one rare species, the yellow-bellied sea snake, is found along the coast from Mexico to Ecuador in the eastern Pacific. The new residents will be studied to learn more about their behavior and will be a source for biomedical researchers who have need of highly toxic pure venoms for their pharmaceutical value. The snakes were a gift from the Aburatsubo Aquarium in Japan, site of a tank similar to Steinhart's new Fish Roundabout.

On the recommendation of the Science Council to the Academy's Board of Trustees, the following have been elected as Fellows of the California Academy of Sciences:

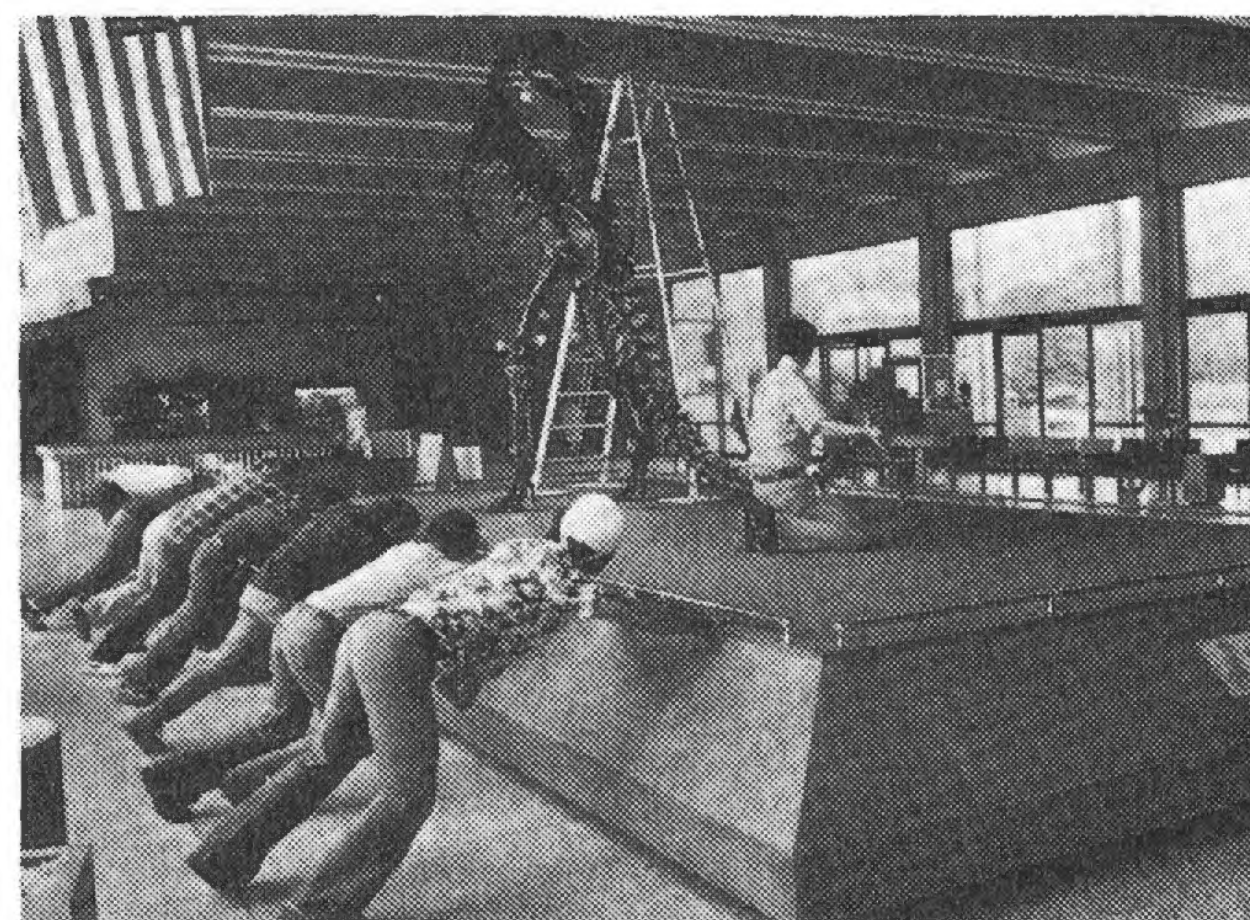
Dr. Winslow R. Briggs, Department of Plant Biology, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Stanford University.

Dr. J. Gordon Edwards, Department of Entomology, California State University, San Jose.

Mr. David Perlman, Science Correspondent, San Francisco Chronicle.

Mrs. Wilson Meyer, Academy Friend and Benefactor, San Francisco.

Election to this body is in recognition of unusual attainments in science and active participation in the advancement of the work of the Academy. By charter, the number is limited to 300 persons who are elected for life.



Moving Alicia

The allosaurus fossil, affectionately called Alicia by members of the staff, was moved last month as part of some welcome renovations in Cowell Hall. A spacious new ticket booth surrounded by seasonal bloomers and full grown trees around a new information center have been added to make Cowell Hall a comfortable lobby-meeting place-rest stop-entrance for the entire Academy. You will also find the centrally located new GME Museum Shop at the west end of Cowell Hall; a large and convenient one-stop book store and gift shop for that natural history buff on your Christmas list.

On Exhibit On Sale . . . The first complete and comprehensive guide to the birds and mammals on display at the California Academy of Sciences was recently published by the Docent Council of the CAS. Edited by Eleanor Lawry, the 280-page book is filled with text, maps and drawings describing in detail each diorama of North American and African Halls. All active members of the Docent Council contributed research and various Academy staff members and docents authored and illustrated sections of **On Exhibit**.

On Exhibit has been in preparation since 1974 and is the first publication of its kind. It will be used as a training manual by all new docents and allows members to take a little piece of the Academy home with them for in-depth study and enjoyment. **On Exhibit** is available for \$10.00, including tax, to members. All proceeds from the sale of the book will be used for the Docent Educational Fund.

Copies of **On Exhibit** will be on sale at the November members' meetings, or they can be ordered from the Docent Council office at 221-5100, Ext. 254.

Late October saw the beginning of a new membership drive for the Academy. If you by chance received an invitation to become a member of the CAS and you are currently active as a member, please bear with us; it seems some overlapping just can't be helped. Perhaps you could pass the information along to a friend or neighbor, or use the return envelope you will find enclosed to send a membership as a gift to someone. Whatever you decide, please accept our apologies for adding to the overcrowded mailbox problem.

Classes for Adults

Marine Aquarium Keeping:

Saturday, November 5, 1-5 p.m., Glenn Burghardt, Professional Aquarist \$10 members, \$15 non-members.

For the person experienced in keeping freshwater aquariums at home, this class will discuss the special problems involved in marine tanks. It will go into the equipment and biological needs of the marine animals as well as the practical information on setting up the tanks. If you have already taken our class called **Care of Fresh and Saltwater Aquarium Fishes** this class will be repetitive.

Telescope Workshop:

Mondays, November 7-21, 7-10 p.m., Star Party Saturday, November 19, John Hinds, Astronomy Instructor for Diablo Valley College and City College — \$20 for individuals, \$30 for families

If you have always wanted to purchase a telescope for personal use, but don't know what to look for, or you own one and can't quite figure out how to use it, this class is for you. It will also cover astrophotography and other interesting topics of observational astronomy.

The Visible Universe:

November 22-December 20, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Michael Bennett, Planetarium Lecturer — \$25 for individuals, \$35 for families.

Join us as we view the constellations and planets of the various seasons as seen from San Francisco and other latitudes on Earth. During the course we will also learn how to use a star finder to identify the seasonal planets and stars. The yearly motions of the moon, tides, the sun and the planets will complete our view of the visible universe.

To Register:

Pre-registration is encouraged, however, students may sign up at the front door of the Academy the first night of class, space permitting. Class fees are refundable up to the second class meeting, less a \$5 service charge. To pre-register, send a check for the full amount, along with your name, address and daytime telephone to the Education Office of the Academy. The enclosure of a self-addressed envelope is always appreciated.

Trips for Members

Mendocino Mushrooming:

December 10-11, 1977

Join Dr. and Mrs. Robert Orr on their third annual weekend mushroom hunt along the Mendocino coast. We depart from the Academy at 9 a.m. on Saturday, traveling by chartered bus to Mendocino via Anderson Valley. The group will spend the night at the lovely Little River Inn, rising early Sunday for a day of mushrooming down the coast highway, finally returning to the Academy by dinnertime on Sunday. A popular sidelight of this trip in past years has been to spot for the migrating gray whales from good coastal lookouts. Included in the \$60 per person fee are transportation, lodging, a breakfast and a box lunch. \$14 single supplement. Limited to one bus, reservations by mail to the Travel Office at the Academy.

Birding in the Sutter Buttes:

January 28-29, 1978

The Sutter Buttes are finally open to visitors. And what a sight! Located on the Pacific flyway, the Buttes are the temporary home of a staggering number of birds. We will use the professional naturalists of the West Butte Sanctuary Co. to lead us on birding walks in the Sacramento River riparian area, in Gray Lodge with its tremendous waterfowl concentrations, and the Sutter Buttes themselves. Transportation will be by chartered bus from the Academy, and lodging in Colusa and one box lunch are included. Because of limited motel space, no single rooms are available. \$55 per person, payable to the Travel Office of the Academy.

Hawaiian Islands:

March 2-12, 1978

Volcanoes, whales and tropical vegetation of the Islands of Maui, Hawaii and Kauai will be the focus of the trip. On this specially designed itinerary, participants will have opportunities to explore and study the volcanic geology of Volcanoes National Park of Hawaii and Haleakala National Park of Maui. A day will be spent cruising in the Alenuuehaha Channel between Maui, Lanai, and Molokai to watch the activities of the humpback whales; snorkling, swimming and picnicking will be part of the program for this day. On the "Garden Isle" of Kauai the plant and bird life will be of special interest. Cost: approximately \$540, plus airfare. Contact Nature Expeditions International or the Academy's Travel Office for further information.

Sea of Cortez:

March 24-April 2, 1978

A cruise on the Sea of Cortez is an experience not to be missed by those who enjoy the desert environment of Baja California. Members will fly from San Diego to Bahia de los Angeles where they will board the motorship **Poseidon** to explore the islands and coastal communities of the central desert of Lower California to Loreto and return by air from La Paz. Photographers, snorklers, and students of natural history will find an incredible variety of wildlife and beauty in this land and sea. Limited to 17. Cost: approximately \$650 from San Diego. Contact Nature Expeditions International, 599 College Avenue, Palo Alto 94306, telephone 328-6572 for further information.

We also have trips scheduled in the future to **Alaska** (July), **Southwest Pueblo Country** (August), **Islands of the Pacific and New Guinea** (August), **East Africa and the Seychelles** (September), and **Angel Falls, Tabago and Surinam** (October). Details of these trips can be found on current and upcoming **Pacific Discovery** back covers. Another very special trip, limited to ten, is a voyage in the **Galapagos** next November on a small sailing ship. Watch for details in upcoming issues of the "Newsletter".

New Members of the Academy

Regular Members

Miss Susan Acker
Mr. & Mrs. William Alsop
Miss Edith Andrews
Dave & Suzanne Armistead
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel B. Aronson
Susan J. & Robert C. Axell, Jr.
Miss Susan Dorothy Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Francis Baron
Ms. Barbara Bazett
Mrs. Eileen J. Bernhoft
Mrs. Bernice Biggs
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Binder
Mr. Mike Brisbin
Miss Blanka B. Brock
Ms. Pat Cascos
Ms. Nancy W. Casey
Mrs. Francis L. Chamberlain
Ms. Katherine Cisinski
Mr. Cary Cochrell
Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Cook
Dr. & Mrs. Norman Coplon
Mr. & Mrs. Al Cox
Dr. & Mrs. William R. Crain
Mr. J. Raymond Crawford
Miss Ann L. Davidson
Ms. Linda Deegan
Mr. Rudolph DeMay
Mr. Mark DeVincenzi
Miss Jennifer Everson
Mr. Daniel S. Eyde
Mrs. Priscilla N. Ferguson
Miss Libby Fink
S. N. Fleming
Mr. & Mrs. Norman P. Fluhrer
Mr. & Mrs. Richard L. Fuler
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Dr. L. W. Fusch
Mr. William T. Gannon
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick M. Gans
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Garb
Sanford & Nanci Garfinkel
Mr. Ronald T. Gin
Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Gomez
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Mr. John B. Hanly
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Miss Marian E. Harvey
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Mr. Don O. Horning
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Ms. Gay C. Hunter
Mr. Richard Huntsinger
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Dr. L. F. Johnson
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Mr. Ian Kallen
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Ms. Suzie Kirk
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Kleinenbroch II
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Mrs. Elena Krause
Mr. Jerry Luger
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Miss Barbara Voytek
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HMC K. D. Wiepert, USN (Ret)
Mr. Mark Willis
Mr. James L. Wilson
Dr. Charles M. Wunsch
Mr. John N. Woodrow
Ms. Gloria Z. Wurst
Ms. Virginia Potts Yang
Mr. Douglas Zody

Contributing Members

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Mrs. Anthony M. Frank
Mr. & Mrs. Myron Gershenson
Mr. Michael Hamel-Green
Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Harrington
Mrs. Corry M. Holstine
Mr. Murray Jencks
Mrs. J. Loughlin
Mr. E. E. Stowell

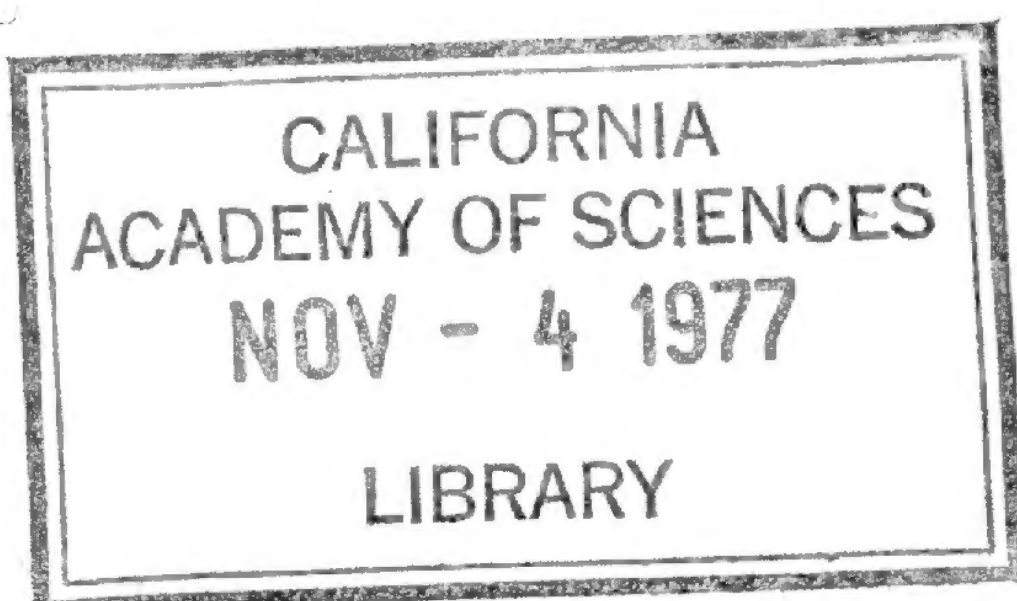
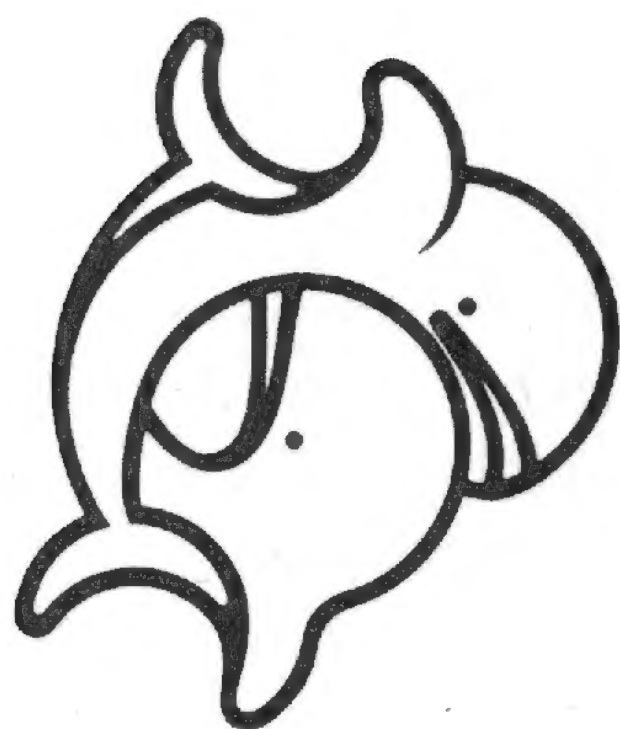
Sustaining Member

Ms. Elfreda E. Taylor

Life Member

Mr. Kenhelm W. Stott, Jr.

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